

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting osteoclast-mediated bone resorption, comprising inhibiting activity of a gene product encoded by an osteoclast associated gene, ~~said gene being selected from the group consisting of OC 1-285, SEQ ID NO: 4, 34, 38, and 43~~ OC14, wherein said osteoclast-associated gene OC14 comprises the nucleotide sequence:

tggagcagag gtttccattg tgtctctcag agcagaaacg gttggcctnt gtgttgcaac cctcagcatc
gcagtgccta tacgaattct gactacattc ctgatggtgt gtttcgctgg ctttaacata aaggaaaaga
tatttatctt ttttgctcgg cttccaaagg ccacggtcca ggctgccatt ggctctgtgg ctctggacac
ggcaagatcc cacggagaga agcagctgga agactatggg atggatgtgc tgacggtggc atttttggcc
atcctcatta cagcaccaat tggaaacctt ctgattggtt tgctgggtcc cagggttctt cagaaatctg
aacatcgaac cgaagaggag gttcaaggag agacttctgc acacattcag aggaagcctg aggattccat
tacggaagcc tgatggacca tgtttaccat cccaacccaa aggttttggc cctccaacaa ccgggacaac
tttacttccc tttgactcag aagaaaactt cccgtggaat ttcataagca aacaaattag aaagctttac
gctgctaaca gtacctcagg tgtttacttc ctcaaaaaga ccggaggaca ggttacttca gaaagtgaga
gaaagtaatt tggacaaata aaacattcac gattttgt (SEQ ID NO:50).

2. - 24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said activity of a gene product encoded by OC14 is inhibited by administering a compound that inhibits the activity of said gene product.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of a fusion protein, a polypeptide, a peptidomimetic, an antisense polynucleotide, a prodrug, an antibody, a small molecule inhibitor, or a ribozyme.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 1.5-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 3-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

29. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 5-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

30. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 10% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

31. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 50% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

32. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 75% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

33. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 90% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.